

## **TRIGG COUNTY PROJECT DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

***MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 8, 2006 AT 5:00 P.M.*** in the Trigg County Circuit Courtroom, Trigg County Courthouse, Main Street, Cadiz, Kentucky 42211. This meeting was designated as a hearing for the public to express comments on site selection as well as present properties for sale.

Members present:

Berlin Moore, County Judge Executive; Kevin Stroud, Fiscal Court Representative; Pam Perry, Circuit Court Clerk; Bill Cunningham, Circuit Judge; Dolores Smith AOC Representative; Woody Woodall, Kentucky Bar Association Representative.

Others Present were: Vance Mitchell, AOC Project Manager; Dennis Arthur with CMW, inc.; Allan Watts, WKDZ; Eric Snyder, Cadiz Record; and numerous residents of Trigg County Kentucky.

The meeting was called to order by Judge Berlin Moore who welcomed the public and stated how the meeting would proceed. He advised that anyone wishing to address the committee would need to sign in and each speaker would be given three minutes to speak. He advised that all written comments received would be given the same consideration by the committee as comments made at the meeting. He introduced Vance Mitchell who explained that all committee meetings were open to the public and encouraged the public's involvement because of the importance to the community. He told the crowd it was their time to speak and be heard. He stated the architect had been hired but that the project was in very preliminary stages. He explained who would occupy the building and that it would be completely a court facility. Vance then introduced Dennis Arthur, the architect.

Dennis Arthur also explained who would occupy and use the building. He also stated the purpose of the meeting was to select a site. He assured the audience the building will conform to and have the DNA of the community – one that shows respect and dignity of the courts and a building that looks like it belongs here. It will not be of modern architecture but historic to blend in with other buildings.

Citizens who had signed to speak were called as follows:

1. Brent Thompson – stated he represented no group and had no property to sell. He supports the location of the building being in an area bounded on the south by Main Street, on the north by Hwy. 139 and on the east by Cadiz Christian Church. He feels this area will allow for ample parking;
2. Ken Oakley – spoke on behalf of the Historical Society who wants to see the building located on the site of the present courthouse;
3. Manual Brown – stated the building should be located on the site of the present courthouse;

4. Mildred Grasty – stated she only had one question and Mr. Mitchell had already answered it by stating who would occupy the building;
5. Sandra Meyers – stated she was on record to say when history is read 100 years from now, she wanted to be on the side of history that said to keep the building downtown;
6. Daniel (Dan) B. Quick – with the Historical Society stated he was in favor of building being located in the downtown area;
7. Edward H. “Buddy” Gish - stated he is a candidate for Magistrate in District 3 and had a written list of questions from citizens who lived in District 3. He left list with the committee for their written response to him.
8. Jerry Nanney – stated he had submitted a written report to the committee and further stated new center should be located out on the by pass.
9. Tammy Warner - with Remax Lakeside Realtors submitted properties for sale in the area of the stoplight at the bottom of the hill – she gave asking price for those properties and stated that gas tanks in one area have been removed according to EPA standards.
10. Mary Jo Bryant – realtor, offered another site for sale she wanted considered. It is located by the Minit Mart across from the Goodnight Motel. The property has two acres and no buildings to demolish.
11. Scott Brown – Gave his statement in opposition to the center being located in downtown area. He stated there is not enough space downtown for the building and sufficient parking. Location will not affect downtown businesses since people who come to court do not come to shop – they conduct court business and go home. He stated it would be too expensive to relocate the 911 emergency offices and the Sheriff’s offices.
12. Donna McNichols – with City of Cadiz – stated that the City of Cadiz passed a resolution that the center be located in the downtown area and read the resolution to the committee. She also stated the Blue Star Memorial Committee requests to place a memorial on the grounds of the new center.
13. Scotty Sholar – a homeowner in the downtown area supports center being located downtown on the site of the present courthouse;
14. Rex Coleman – state auditor but not present as such but as a citizen of Cadiz and Trigg County. He has seen other judicial centers that have moved away from downtown and it works much better. He feels center should be in midtown area.

15. Wilton Lancaster, Jr. – favors having center outside of downtown – he stated he agreed with Scott Brown’s comments;
16. Mary Alton – a newcomer to Cadiz as owner of “Formally Invited” spoke in favor of having the center downtown. She stated people do shop after being in court since she has had customers who stated they were in town to attend court.
17. Teresa Bailey – Chairman of Renaissance on Main and member of Kentucky Heritage Council stated she is in favor of center being located downtown.
18. Lucas Chestnut – with Renaissance on Main spoke in favor of keeping the center downtown and also preserving the historical buildings downtown. He stated he conducted a survey of parking spaces utilized on a busy court day and found there was plenty of parking downtown. He believes citizens should be informed before making their mind up.
19. Scott Jolly – stated he believed the committee was short sighted, that progress is here but needs to be sure it is in right place. He believes the present courthouse should be torn down and a pavilion be erected for the Ham Festival.
20. Cindy Sholar – Director of Renaissance on Main stated the courthouse is the pulse of downtown and center should be located downtown while preserving the historical value of downtown.

At the conclusion of all speeches, Judge Moore thanked the crowd for coming and their input. He reiterated the committee welcomes any further comments and encouraged the public to contact any member with thoughts and comments.

Vance Mitchell added he appreciated the outpouring of community interest. He wanted to assure the people we are not in the business of tearing down historic buildings. He further stated that the committee is required to look at all area/spots downtown first before any consideration can be given to going out to the bypass area. He told the crowd that the committee interviewed six architects and three financial advisors before a selection was made. He stated that a lot of work has gone into selecting the right firms for this project and nothing has been or will be a “done deal.”

Judge Moore announced the conclusion of the meeting and adjourned the public hearing.

The committee re-convened and was called to order by Judge Berlin Moore who expressed his pleasure with the public meeting. He introduced a letter from Tim Futtrell who would make available for sale some property on South Road. It was noted that the city would have to annex that property before it could be considered. A letter from Paul Fourshee was introduced that favored locating the center in the present courthouse

location. A letter from Robert Rose was also introduced which offered for sale property located by Minit Mart.

Vance Mitchell reminded the committee that the county, if interested, needs to put in an offer for the parcel where the present courthouse is located. Also, the committee needs to consider and review all sites proposed. He recommended the Architect do a preliminary review of all sites proposed and be prepared to report to the committee at its next meeting.

Dennis Arthur stated he can have an engineer look at each site and prepare a detailed report to the committee to include environmental concerns. Dennis also mentioned that he had just learned the present courthouse might be built over a cave and it would have to be checked out for suitability.

Judge Cunningham asked if courthouse spot could be checked out first since it seemed to him there was overwhelming support for the building to be on the present location.

Vance Mitchell recommended Dennis Arthur do a simple review of the sites and give a report at the next meeting and thereafter the committee would prioritize those sites for more extensive checking by Dennis. He recommended the committee would then give Dennis authority to have geological testing done on priority sites. He further reminded the committee that they should not fail to select a site based on someone having to move because condemnation can be had. Judge Cunningham felt we should not condemn property, as people do not like that word. Vance recommended along with prioritizing sites at the next meeting that all sites be considered whether for sale or not.

Judge Moore reminded the committee that any bills incurred by the project cannot be paid until after 4/15/06.

Vance Mitchell will also review questions submitted by Edward L. "Buddy" Gish and send to Judge Moore who will respond to those questions. Vance acknowledged receipt of the contract from CMi, Inc. which will be approved and signed by AOC before returning it to the committee.

Judge Berlin Moore announced the next meeting will be March 8, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. in the Courthouse Annex meeting room.

Motion by Judge Cunningham and seconded by Woody Woodall to adjourn. By unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Nell T. Weer, Secretary  
Trigg County Project Planning Development Board

